

**LISTING OF CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the present application.

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~for coordinating communication between one or more agents and a plurality of communication channels associated with different media formats, the apparatus~~ comprising:

- means for receiving a first request in a first media format of a plurality of different media formats via a first communication channel of a plurality of communication channels, wherein each communication channel of the plurality of communication channels has an associated media format of the plurality of different media formats;
- means for receiving a second request in a second media format of the plurality of different media formats via a second communication channel of the plurality of communication channels;
- means for determining ~~[[the]]~~ media formats that each agent of [[the]] one or more agents ~~[[can]] is authorized to~~ access, wherein the media formats that each agent of the one or more agents is authorized to access comprise at least one of the plurality of different media formats; and
- means for assigning, in response to the determining, the one or more agents to handle the first and second requests based on the media formats of the first and second requests and the media formats that each agent of the one or more agents ~~[[can]] is authorized to~~ access.

2. (Original) The apparatus, as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

- means for assigning the one or more agents to handle the first and second requests based on the subject matter of the first and second requests and the skills associated with the one or more agents.

3. (Original) The apparatus, as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:  
means for queuing the first and second requests until one of the one or more agents is  
available to accept the first or second requests.

4. (Original) The apparatus, as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:  
means for assigning the first and second requests to the one or more agents based on a set  
of rules.

5. (Original) The apparatus, as set forth in claim 4, further comprising:  
means for allowing an agent to decline being assigned to the first or second requests.

6. (Original) The apparatus, as set forth in claim 4, further comprising:  
means for allowing an agent to route a request assigned to the agent to another agent.

7. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for coordinating communication between one or more agents and a plurality of communication channels associated with different media formats, the method~~ comprising:

receiving a first request in a first media format of a plurality of different media formats  
via a first communication channel of a plurality of communication channels,  
wherein  
each communication channel of the plurality of communication channels has  
an associated media format of the plurality of different media  
formats;

receiving a second request in a second media format of the plurality of different media  
formats via a second communication channel of the plurality of communication  
channels;

determining [[the]] media formats that each agent of [[the]] one or more agents [[can]]  
is authorized to access, wherein  
the media formats that each agent of the one or more agents is authorized to  
access comprise at least one of the different media formats; and

in response to the determining, assigning the one or more agents to handle the first and  
second requests based on the media formats of the first and second requests and

the media formats **that each agent of** the one or more agents **[[can]] is authorized to** access.

8. (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 7, further comprising:  
assigning the one or more agents to handle the first and second requests based on the  
subject matter of the first and second requests and the skills associated with the  
one or more agents.
9. (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 7, further comprising:  
queuing the first and second requests until one of the one or more agents is available to  
accept the first or second requests.
10. (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 7, further comprising:  
assigning the first and second requests to the one or more agents based on a set of rules.
11. (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 10, further comprising:  
allowing an agent to decline being assigned to the first or second requests.
12. (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 10, further comprising:  
allowing an agent to route a request assigned to the agent to another agent.
13. (Original) A computer readable storage media comprising:  
computer instructions to implement the method of claim 7.
14. (Original) A signal in a carrier medium comprising:  
computer instructions to implement the method of claim 7.
15. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for coordinating communication between one or more agents and a plurality of communication channels associated with different media formats, the system~~ comprising:  
a first computer server operable to receive a first request in a first media format **of a plurality of different media formats** via a first communication channel **of a**

plurality of communication channels and a second request in a second media format of the plurality of different media formats via a second communication channel of the plurality of communication channels;

a queuing engine operable to

determine [[the]] media formats that each agent of [[the]] one or more agents

[[can]] is authorized to access, wherein

the media formats that each agent of the one or more agents is

authorized to access comprise at least one of the different

media formats, and to

in response to determining the media formats that each agent of the one or

more agents is authorized to access, assign the one or more agents to

handle the first and second requests based on the media formats of the first

and second requests and the media formats that each agent of the one or

more agents [[can]] is authorized to access.

16. (Original) The system, as set forth in claim 15, wherein the queuing engine is further operable to:

assign the one or more agents to handle the first and second requests based on the subject matter of the first and second requests and the skills associated with the one or more agents.

17. (Original) The system, as set forth in claim 15, wherein the queuing engine is further operable to:

queue the first and second requests until one of the one or more agents is available to accept the first or second requests.

18. (Original) The system, as set forth in claim 15, wherein the queuing engine is further operable to:

assign the first and second requests to the one or more agents based on a set of rules.

19. (Original) The system, as set forth in claim 10, wherein the queuing engine is further operable to:

allow an agent to decline being assigned to the first or second requests.

20. (Original) The system, as set forth in claim 10, wherein the queuing engine is further operable to:

allow an agent to route a request assigned to the agent to another agent.